GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1019
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Cases of Depression
Kishore Shri Kaushal

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there has been a huge increase in the number of patients suffering from depression in the country including farmers, students, businessman;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any programme to cater to the treatment needs of the such patients; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): There are no long term population based studies in India to suggest that the cases of depression are increasing in the country. However, as per a study conducted simultaneously at 11 centers in India, it was determined that the chance of an individual developing an episode of depression during the life time was 9% (life time prevalence). The study also revealed that the chance of developing an episode of major depression at any point of time in any 12 month period is 4.5% (period prevalence).

(c) & (d): To address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) and the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP). Funds have been released for 241 districts in the country under the DMHP for detection, management and treatment of mental disorders/ illness. With the objective to address the shortage of mental health professionals in the country, 15 Centers of Excellence in Mental Health and 35 PG training departments in mental health specialties to increase the PG training capacity in mental health as well as improving the tertiary care treatment facility have been funded. Besides, three Central Institutions viz. National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi have been strengthened for augmenting the human resources in the area of mental health and for capacity building in the country. During the 12th Five Year Plan, the DMHP has been restructured to include additional components like suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counseling in schools and colleges. Support is also provided for Central/ State Mental Health Authorities, Research and Training and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.